

## “Haunted House” General Requirements

For “haunted house” projects, the following conditions and the Fire Marshal’s review comments on the approved plans shall apply:

1. Submit a Special Event Permit Application. Provide two sets of site plans and documentation (see item #4).
2. Obtain inspections and approval from the Fire Marshal **prior to** opening the event.
3. Haunted houses shall be equipped throughout with an automatic sprinkler system. **Exception:** Automatic sprinklers are not required where the total floor area of the haunted house is less than 1,000 square feet **and** the travel distance from any point to an exit is less than 50 feet.
4. All curtains, draperies, hangings, props and other materials shall be fire resistant. Includes, but is not limited to: textiles, films, plastics, foam and wood less than 1/8” thick. They shall comply with the flame spread and smoke generation requirements of the International Fire Code. Documentation shall be provided showing that the material(s) intended for use meet requirements.
5. Provide supervision throughout such that a supervisor is immediately available to occupants and participants in the event of an emergency. Supervisors shall be provided with flashlights and vests or shirts, or other identifiers, which shall render them easily distinguishable at all times. Provide supervision at the entrance and all exits. The number of supervisors required will be established during the initial inspection.
6. Participants shall be supervised and guided through the haunted house by individuals identified as guides. The guides shall have in their possession flashlights and whistles for sounding alarm in an emergency. The guided groups shall not exceed five (5) participants plus the guide.
7. Provide illuminated “EXIT” signs at all emergency exits identified on the plan. Exits to the exterior shall be clearly identified and readily distinguishable from their surroundings.
8. “EXIT” signs shall be provided, as indicated on the approved plans, so the paths of egress to the exterior are clearly marked from any point in the haunted house.
9. Occupants shall be able to egress to the exterior without having to pass through more than one intervening room.
10. Signs shall be provided at all entrance points which read “NO SMOKING” and “NO OPEN FLAMES PERMITTED”. Receptacles shall be provided for the safe extinguishment of smoking materials prior to participants entering the building. Smoke alarms with new batteries shall be provided in approved

**Revised 8/30/11**



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For an alternate format, contact the Clark County ADA Compliance Office.  
 Phone: (360) 397-2322  
 Relay: 711 or (800) 833-6388  
 Email: [ADA@clark.wa.gov](mailto:ADA@clark.wa.gov)

locations throughout the haunted house. Smoke alarms shall be tested each business day prior to opening.

11. Individuals working in the haunted house shall be made familiar with the sound of the smoke alarms. Upon activation of a smoke alarm, workers shall immediately begin an orderly evacuation of the building, directing participants to the closest exit.
12. One worker shall be assigned to the main lighting controls for the haunted house. **This individual shall have no other responsibility.** Upon hearing the sound of a smoke alarm or guide's emergency whistle, this individual shall turn on all normal house lighting and shall stop all audio and visual special effects.
13. The paths of egress shall be maintained clear of any obstructions at all times.
14. The paths of egress shall be a minimum of 44 inches in width. Other "aisles" may be 36 inches minimum width.
15. Partitions and props shall be constructed in a manner that will prevent them from collapsing or falling over during an emergency.
16. Portable ABC type fire extinguishers with a minimum classification of 2-A:10-B:C shall be provided at all exits to the exterior and throughout the haunted house so that a unit is available within 75 feet of **travel distance** from any point in the building.
17. Develop an evacuation plan for supervisors and all workers to assure safe and complete evacuation of the premises upon activation of a smoke alarm or other emergency. Supervisors and workers shall be instructed in the plan and the plan shall be rehearsed prior to each day's opening of the event.

18. Failure to comply with these requirements, or other orders and directions from the Fire Marshal, may result in the immediate closure of the event.

To schedule inspections, call (360) 397-2186 ext. 3395 **at least 24 hours in advance.** Your permit number and address will be required to schedule an inspection.